desired by the World Bank, a re-revised identification report on the Maharashtra Water Supply & Sewerage Project Stage-II based on 1997-98 prices at an estimated cost of Rs.891 crores has been forwarded to the World Bank on 2.4.98 for consideration. Further comments of the World Bank are awaited. Meanwhile the State Government is pursuing the various clearances required for the project, such as environmental impact assessment, resettlement and rehabilitation plan, etc.

(b) The project can be taken up for execution only after the World Bank loan is approved, for which no definite time can be indicated at present.

(c) The project is likely to take about 8years to complete after it is taken up for execution.

Public Transport in the Urban Areas of NCR

1329. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided any financial assistance for the development of various types of public transport in the urban areas of national Capital Region of Delhi during the last three years, so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) whether any International Institution has proposed to provide financial assistance for the public transport system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (d) Govt. of India has provided financial assistance for the development of Mass Rapid Transit System in Delhi.

The details of financial assistance provided by the Government during the last three years is given below:—

year	Loan for land acquisition	EquityG. Total (Rs. in lakhs)	
1995-96	—	80.00	
1996-97	—	5200.00	
1997-98	5000.00	5000.00	
	5000.00	10280.00	15280.00

For implementation of Delhi MRTS project, Overseas Economic Corporation Fund (OECF) (Japan) has agreed to provide soft loan (@2.3% per annum) covering 56% (Approx.) of the total cost (Rs.4860 crore at April, 1996 prices) of the project. For this purpose, a loan agreement was signed on February 25, 1997. The loan agreement was effectuated in October 21, 1997.

With this, OECF has agreed to provide 14,760 million Japanese Yen as first tranche for implementation of Delhi MRTS project.

Low Cost Housing

1330. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have worked out a scheme for low-cost housing involving participation of NRIs and multi-national companies; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the response received from the NRIs and multi-national companies?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present there is no specific scheme for low cost housing involving participation of NRIs and multinational companies. However, there is a scheme

to encourage non-residents of Indian nationality/origin to invest in the urban development and housing sector. The scheme permits the existing or new companies, both private and public limited, to issue equity shares/convertible debentures to non-residents of Indian nationality/origin upto 100% with repatriation benefits after a lock in period of 3 years, if the company is engaged in development of serviced plots or construction of built-up residential premises, real estate covering the construction of residential, commercial premises etc. There is no bar against participation of the NRIs/PIOs in the projects relating to low cost housing. In the light of the action plan under the National Agenda-Housing for All, the Cooperative sector, the state agencies, NGOs, private sector and others including NRIs will be associated with the programme for achievement of targets.

Illegal Sale of Plots in Sangam Vihar

1331. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Lt. Governor, Delhi had received representations/complaints dated 31st July, 1997, 1st December, 1997 and 6th April, 1998 from Sangam Vihar Vikas Manch to stop the encroachment/illegal sale of the vacant land/plots for public facilities in the unauthorised colonies where the NOC (No Objection Certificate) have been issued by the Town Planning Department of MCD;

(b) if so, the action taken or propose to take in this regard by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) (a) to (c) Two representations dated 31.7.97 and 1.12.97 were received from Sangam Vihar Vikas Manch, which were sent to MCD by the Office of Lt. Governor, Delhi.

MCD has reported that they have no knowledge of illegal sale of land in the area.

Amendment of Building Bye-laws for Installing Solar Based System

1332. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to amend the building bye-laws making it mandatory for new buildings to install solar based system for energy needs of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when a bill to amend the law will be introduced in the Parliament; and

(d) the energy estimated to be generated from this source?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) (a) and (b) With a view to encourage the use of solar water heating system in functional buildings, Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment has constituted a Small Group with the representatives of Ministry of Non-Conventional energy Sources, HUDCO, CPWD, etc. to draft guidelines. The Group is in the process of finalising the draft guidelines. After these are finalised, the same will be circulated to all State Governments/Union Territories for necessary action.

(c) Since regulation of buildings in urban areas is a State subject, there is no proposal to introduce any bill in Parliament in this regard.

(d) As per information received from the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Source, one million solar homes can lead to a reduction in peak load demand of 1000 MW.